Maintenance of IA's aircrafts

†2100 SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has constituted an Auxiliary Engineering Undertaking for the maintenance of the aircrafts; and

(b) if so, the details there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Aeronautics Museum at Safdarjung Airport

2101 SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Ministry of Civil Aviation has any proposal to hand-over Safdarjung Airport to the Urban Development Ministry; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it would be appropriate to create an Aeronautics Museum on this land so that people can be made aware of the history of Air Travels, Flying machines and future possibilities in this field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir

(b) Safdarjung Airport, at present, is actively in use for aviation purposes. VVIP and VIP flights including flights of several State Governments like Punjab, Haryana & Uttar Pradesh and helicopters of M/s Pawan Hans Limited are being operated at this airport. Beside, aircrafts of Airports Authority of India (AAI) which are extensively used for calibration of navigational aids of all civil airports of India operate only from this airport. However, Government is considering various options regarding Safdarjung Airport Complex.

Income from privatisation of airports

†2102. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to privatise some of the airports of the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the names of these airports;

(c) the details regarding their average annual income;

(d) the reasons for selection of these airports by Government, and

(e) the financial gain to Government after their privatisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The Government have decided to restructure and modernize Delhi and Mumbai airports through Joint Venture route.

(c) Average annual income (profit before tax) of last three years of Delhi and Mumbai airports are Rs. 179 22 crores and Rs. 186 24 crores, respectively.

(d) Since Delhi and Mumbai airports are the major gateway international airports of the country, they have been selected for restructuring and modernizing through Joint Venture route to be developed as world class airports in terms of facilities and management practices.

(e) The financial gain likely to be accrued after modernization and restructuring of the two airports cannot be precisely estimated before the finalization of the process. However, it may be mentioned that vision of the Government is to develop these two airports of world class standards.

Appointments made in AAI

†2103. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI.

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 129 appointments were made in Airports Authority of India between the period from October, 1998 to June, 2003;

(b) if not, the actual number of appointments, the names of posts for which such appointments were made and the appointees; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.